

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.

ANTHONY MEMORIAL CHURCH.—REV. A. JAGGAR.
Morning and evening.

CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS.—Large Chapel, University, Washington square.—REV. DR. DEEMS. Morning and evening.

CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION.—REV. AEROT BROWN. Morning and afternoon.

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR, Thirty-fifth street.—REV. J. M. PELLMAN. Morning and evening.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION.—REV. DR. FLAUG. Morning and afternoon.

COOPER INSTITUTE.—PAPER PUBLISHING BY REV. J. F. W. WADE. Morning and evening.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES.—REV. DR. GIBBS. Morning and evening.

EVERETT ROOMS.—SPIRITUALISTS. DR. HALLOCK. Morning and evening.

FREE CHAPEL OF THE HOME FOR THE BLIND.—REV. LANTIER BENJAMIN. Afternoon.

FREE CHURCH OF THE HOLY LIGHT.—REV. EASTBURN BENJAMIN. Morning and evening.

FORTY-SECOND STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—REV. DR. SCOTT. Morning and evening.

MURRAY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH.—REV. DR. SIDNEY A. COEY. Morning and evening.

MADISON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.—PASTOR JOHN QUINN. Morning and evening.

ST. JAMES CHURCH, Hamilton square.—CONFIRMATION. Morning.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH.—REV. J. STANFORD HOLMES. Morning and evening.

UNIVERSITY, Washington square.—BISHOP SNOW. Afternoon.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, February 21, 1869.

Notice to Herald Carriers and News Dealers.

HERALD carriers and news dealers are informed that they can now procure the requisite number of copies direct from this office without delay.

All complaints of "short counts" and spoiled sheets must be made to the Superintendent in the counting-room of the HERALD establishment.

Newsmen who have received spoiled papers from the HERALD office, are requested to return the same, with proof that they were obtained from here direct, and have their money refunded. Spoiled sheets must not be sold to readers of the HERALD.

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The DAILY HERALD will be sent to subscribers for one dollar a month.

The postage being only thirty-five cents a quarter, country subscribers by this arrangement can receive the HERALD at the same price it is circulated in the city.

THE NEWS.

Europe.

The cable telegrams are dated February 20.

The London papers, *Times*, *Post* and *Standard*, of yesterday contain editorials on the failure of the United States Senate to ratify the treaty recently drawn up between Reverdy Johnson and Lord Clarendon for the settlement of the Alabama claims.

The order of M. Forcade, French Minister of the Interior, in relation to public gatherings of the people was enforced on Friday last. A public meeting at Mont Parnasse was contemplated, but the crowd was dispersed. It is also announced that the celebration on Wednesday next of the inauguration of republican government in France has been prohibited. General Dix denies the story that he has recently made a speech expressing his sympathy with the Greeks.

Mexico.

By the Gulf cable we have advices from Mexico to the 13th inst. General Negrete had captured the city of Puebla and held it for three days, but had withdrawn towards Matamoros on the approach of the government forces. Porfirio Diaz was reported to have been implicated in the revolution, but without truth. The revolution in Yucatan was merely local. Revolutions had broken out or were about breaking out all over the country. Quilroa, in Nuevo Leon, had declared for Santa Anna. General Corona is named as the probable Minister to Washington. The revolutionaries appear to be working in harmony, and the favorite leaders are heading greater forces than usual. Considerable excitement existed at the capital.

Cuba.

An American named Dudley, who attempted to leave Havana yesterday on the steamer Columbia without a passport, was detained by the authorities. Sedition proclamations have been distributed among negroes. The insurgent chiefs in Colon are reported to have availed themselves of the amnesty proclamation. Several fights have taken place near Trinidad, and the insurgents are reported to have been totally defeated at Villa Clara.

Congress.

In the Senate yesterday the bill authorizing the issue of an American register to the ship *Agra*, of Boston, which was put under the protection of the British flag during the rebellion, was called up and discussed until the expiration of the morning hour. The bill to repeal the Tenure of Office act then came up as unfinished business, and after several attempts to set it aside the discussion of it was got fairly under way and continued till adjournment. Messrs. Conkling, Howe and Sawyer, of South Carolina, were opposed to the repeal. Mr. Conkling favoring the retention of the act in a modified form. Messrs. Morton, Doolittle, Dixon and Robertson, of South Carolina, were in favor of complete repeal.

In the House the Sergeant-at-Arms appeared with twenty members under his charge, absentees of the night before, whom he had hunted up under the call of the House. A resolution to suspend further proceedings under the call and to allow the Sergeant his customary fees was adopted after a short debate, in which it came out that the Sergeant-at-Arms received three dollars and twenty cents for each man arrested and mileage. The New Mexico contested election case was decided by giving the seat to Mr. Chavez. Under a suspension of the rules the Senate resolution proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right of suffrage to all citizens despite of race, color, nativity, creed or previous condition of servitude was agreed to. The constitutional amendment was thereupon passed by a vote of 149 to 32. No evening session was held and the House adjourned.

Miscellaneous.

Among the bills which have become laws by the ten days' limit, the President having neither signed nor disapproved them within that time, after their reception from Congress, is one removing from office in Virginia, Mississippi and Texas those persons who cannot take the oath prescribed by the fourteenth article of amendment.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Solicitor of that department to prosecute the pilots of the Ohio river steamers United States and America for manslaughter in connection with the loss of life by the recent collision between those steamers.

The Census Committee of Congress are at present deliberating on the question whether representation or the ratio of representation should be increased to

conform to the increased population. The question is of especial interest to those Southern States which have adopted negro suffrage under the fourteenth article, which guarantees an apportionment of representation in conformity to the number of qualified voters.

Mayor Bowen, of Washington, who is chairman of the committee for the sale of tickets to the inauguration ball, has informed a colored inquirer that no person of respectable character and good standing will be denied admission, whatever his color, so far as he (Mayor Bowen) is concerned; but the question never having come up before the committee he cannot decide for them.

Mr. Dempsey, of the stationery contracting firm in Washington, was sentenced on the day before yesterday to a fine of \$200 and imprisonment for ten days for an assault on a Patent Office clerk. Yesterday President Johnson pardoned him.

Charles Earl, a physician of Chicago, is being tried in that city on charges preferred by his wife of being a professional child-murderer.

A Philadelphia bank cashier is reported to be a defaulter to the amount of \$100,000. Isaac Angevine, aged 105, died near Tarrytown yesterday.

The City.

The jury rendered a verdict yesterday in the McDonald homicide case, that the deceased, Peter McDonald, came to his death from wounds inflicted by a tongs in the hands of James McDonald. The latter was arrested by the police some time ago, but it is said escaped by slipping his hands through the handcuffs. A warrant is now out for his arrest.

The Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Fire Department Fund have entered a protest against the organization of a paid fire department in that city.

Four alleged milk adulterators were arrested yesterday morning and about eighty cans of milk in their possession were seized. Specimens of the water which they are accused of having mixed with the milk are on exhibition at the Central Office awaiting analysis. The water is very muddy and is filled with animal and vegetable matter. The prisoners were committed to the Board of Health will investigate the matter.

Cole, who was supposed to be implicated with Marshall in the Pequanock Bank robbery, was discharged yesterday for want of evidence, and Marshall was remanded to await a requisition from the Governor.

Edwin R. Lee, the Bergen, N. J., broker, was examined yesterday on the charge of stealing \$40,000 in bonds from the Star Insurance Company, of this city, in August last. Mr. Lee, in his defence, stated that he was a member of the Board of Brokers in this city, and that he had not known that any bonds had been stolen from the Star Insurance Company. Mr. Rochall, of Pine street, entered an additional complaint against Lee for complicity in another bond robbery. He was committed, and the hearing was postponed until Tuesday.

The United States and Brazil Mail Steamship Company's steamer *South America*, Captain Tinkler, left pier 43 North river, at eight o'clock to-morrow morning, for St. Thomas, Para, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio Janeiro.

The stock market yesterday was unsettled during the boards, but closed steady. Gold was irregular and closed finally at 139 1/2.

Business in most departments of trade in commercial circles yesterday was quiet. Coffee was in good demand from the trade and prices were firmer, while cotton was fairly active and 1/2c. per lb. higher, closing at 20c. for middling upland. Sugar—Raw was active and 1/2c. higher, fair to good refining Cuba closing at 13 1/2c. a 13 1/2c., while refined was 1/2c. higher, fair selling at 20c. On Change flour was dull and nominal. Wheat was moderately active and steady, while corn was steady, and oats quiet and a shade lower. Pork was in better demand, and at 50c. a \$1 lower prices. Naval stores were dull and generally unchanged. Freight was quiet and lower. Petroleum—Crude, in bulk, was dull and heavy at 21 1/2c. a 22c., while refined was quiet and 1/2c. a 1c. lower, closing at 36 1/2c.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

William E. Seward, Jr., of Auburn; Judge R. H. Hitchcock, of Ohio; A. J. Drexel, of Philadelphia; and G. W. Cass, of Pittsburgh, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Postmaster General A. W. Randall, C. Wendell and H. A. Moore, of Washington, are at the Astor House.

General W. Ely, of Connecticut; General Owens, of Philadelphia; E. L. Plumb, of Mexico, and M. P. Bemis, of New York, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

C. Berger, of the French Legation at Washington, is at the Brevoort House.

Captain Thomas Edridge, of San Francisco; Colonel D. C. Hall, of Boston; and Lieutenant D. C. Seymour, of the United States Army, are at the St. Charles Hotel.

Matt. H. Carpenter, Senator elect, of Wisconsin; General Nelson Miles, of the United States Army, and J. P. Carter, of Quincy, Ill., are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Paymaster Reed, of the United States Navy; Captain W. Stewart, of the United States Army, and Professor Williams, of Cambridge, Mass., are at the St. Julien Hotel.

Prominent Departures.

Viscount George d'Agnin, Count H. de Redonchelle and Baron and Baroness de Riviere sailed yesterday for Europe.

Christianity and the Great Future.

Have we yet entered upon the millennium? Some there are who think we have not. Others there are who think we have. On this subject there are few bold enough to speak authoritatively. It has often seemed to us that it would not be difficult presumptively to make out a good case in favor of the existence now of that thousand years period to which the pious in all ages of Christianity have enthusiastically looked forward, and for the advent of which they have perseveringly and fervently prayed. The times are not without certain peculiarities which, to say the least, are suggestive of great and rapid change. Nor have we been without the promised signs. We have had signs in the heavens above, signs in the earth beneath and signs in the waters under the earth. There have been blood and fire and vapor of smoke. Against this view it would be no good argument to say that the great mass of mankind and even the great majority of Christian believers have failed to discover in the present times any sufficient proof that the millennium had arrived. The fulness of the times had been foretold to the Jews. But when the fulness of the times arrived, which as it was with convincing evidence, the Jews failed to recognize the period or to see the Saviour which it brought to them. Not only so. The Jews to this day, scattered as they are over all lands and across every sea, living among all peoples and in every possible condition, refuse to admit that the fulness of the times has yet come, and they will not see in the great central object of the Christian's faith the long-looked-for and oft-promised Messiah. The Jews have failed to see Christ, but that is not proof that the Christ has not made His appearance. So it is with the millennium. It may or it may not be already entered upon. It is certainly no proof that it is not entered upon that mankind generally, and Christians particularly, have failed to recognize it. There are to be unbelievers in the last days as there are unbelievers in the first.

However it may be with this prospective period which men have called the millennium—an old and much vexed subject of discussion—a subject warmly defended by such fathers as Justin Martyr, Irenaeus and Tertullian, but which was stoutly knocked on the head by that most vigorous and successful of all the early apologists, Origen—whether there shall be a

millennium in the old and popular sense or whether there shall not—this, at least, must be admitted, that Christianity has a magnificent future before it, and that in that future and through Christianity all nations shall be blessed. That this great future in some sense is already ours is not for a moment to be doubted. What it is to be in the fulness of its glorious fruition we can as yet but imperfectly imagine. The golden year, the great hereafter, the reign of universal brotherhood, as poets, sacred and profane, have described it; when the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places plain; when many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased, when science shall force her way, torch in hand, into every secret place and dislodge the mystery and the power; when the curse that followed sin shall be undone by the antidotes of nature; when the curse that fell upon impety and pride at Babel shall be rendered powerless by the universal diffusion of one common tongue; when science, no longer divorced from religion and now the controller of all mystery and all power, shall be the willing handmaid of Christianity; when the earth shall bear upon its broad and generous bosom but one people, one language, one faith, and when liberty and sufficiency shall be the portion of all—that glorious golden time which as yet we can see but dimly is rapidly hastening on. It may not be ours to witness the fulness of the splendor of that happy day, but it is certainly ours to behold the gorgeousness of its dawn. It may not be ours to take part with the merry reapers and gather in the golden harvest; but it is an occupation which is scarcely less delightful, and which is certainly more invigorating, to share in the activities of the hopeful springtime; and that occupation is ours. The present times are full of activity. The great future with impatient strides draws nearer and nearer. As we gaze the vision brightens. We see the nations contented and at rest. The war drum throbs no longer; the battle flags are furled. We see Christianity enthroned and wielding the sceptre of universal empire, but ruling with gentleness and benignance, while by her side sits meek-eyed Science, calm but conscious of power and ever ready to obey.

This great future is but the natural and necessary product of the present. To Christianity are we indebted for all the most admired characteristics of the age. With the poet we must admit that "through the ages one increasing purpose runs," and that "the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns." We cannot doubt this, but we know that this increasing purpose has run with feeter feet since the advent of Christianity, and that the enlargement of human thought has gone on at an increased and increasing ratio during the Christian centuries. Christianity was feeble in its infancy, but like the stone cut from the mountain, it gathered strength as it rolled. It fostered thought and gave an impulse to human ingenuity as no system had ever done before. In spite of all the faults committed in its name, the religion of Jesus has proved itself from the commencement the best friend of humanity, the best patron of science and the most potent agency in the development of human thought. The mariner's compass, the printing press, the newspaper, the steam engine, the electric telegraph, the railroad—these and a thousand other discoveries and inventions attest the fostering genius of Christianity. Of such she may be regarded as the parent, and such she retains in her service. These are the true preachers of the present, and more and more they will become the preachers of the future. Not the surpliced mummies behind altar rails, nor the elegant coxcombs who, gowned or ungowned, dispense honeyed words to willing ears; not the vulgar demagogues who can find in the Gospel only fire and brimstone—not these, but the railroad, the telegraph, the printing press, and especially the newspaper, now are the great heralds of the cross. What have these agents not done? What are they not doing? Time and space have ceased to be obstructions in their way. They have bridged the mighty waters, pierced the everlasting hills and made the lightning the swift messenger of thought. They have bound the nations and the continents together and created a community of interest. They have quickened and intensified thought by almost unqualified facilities of expression. They have given an impulse to the process of unification which reveals itself in swiftly changing boundary lines—boundary lines which show that as civilization advances nations become fewer but larger, and that the tendency is to obliterate all the distinctions of race, language and religion. One great family, one common language, one common faith, and that faith Christianity—such is the future which lies before the world. All the great forces of the time are in the service of Christianity, and everything indicates that we are on the eve of a great crisis, out of which Christianity will come simpler, purer, more like its original self, but more powerful than ever.

STATE RIGHTS.—If the Congressional committee incarcerated our County Clerk for contempt in refusing to produce the papers of his office, the motion for his release will bring up the question whether he has the right or power to do what Congress requires. This nice question of relative jurisdiction between the State and general government will have to be argued with one of our county officials in jail. We wish that all the other endless points of State rights might be argued to a conclusion under the same conditions. What an economy it would be to the country!

"THE CHICKEN INTEREST."—Greely wants light on this important matter, to wit:—How is it that the Congressional "frank of Mr. James Brooks is devoted to the chicken interest, and that of the Hon. John Fox to cover the posters" of a party newspaper? The "chicken interest" thus fostered by Mr. Brooks is, we suppose, that of the Shanghai breed; but we don't know whether he franks the chickens or the empty boxes. Have the public any interest in this "chicken interest"? We don't know.

WANTED.—A man in Congress to take the place, at this critical time, of Mr. E. B. Washburne as watch dog of the Treasury. Mr. Washburne is sick; the lobby jobbers see their chance; but cannot General Butler be relied upon to head them off? He can if he will.

The Army Appropriation Bill.

After a good deal of discussion in the House of Representatives over the Army Appropriation bill and the defeat of several amendments to cut down the army and its expenses the amendment of Mr. Blaine was finally adopted by a large majority, the vote being 111 yeas to 64 nays, and the bill thus amended was passed. The Blaine amendment is negative in its character and leaves the reduction of the army to the discretion of the Secretary of War or the administration—that is, in fact, to General Grant, except that it positively provides "that until otherwise directed by law there shall be no new appointments and no promotions in the Adjutant General's Department, Inspector General's Department, Pay Department, Quartermaster's Department, Ordnance Department or Medical Department." No new commissions in any regiment are to be issued until the military force is reduced to twenty regiments of infantry, five of cavalry and five of artillery. The Secretary of War is directed to consolidate regiments as rapidly as the requirements of the public service will permit till this minimum of force is reached. Thus, as we said, there is no positive provision for the reduction of the army. All is left to the views of the administration as to what the requirements of the public service may be.

While we have confidence in General Grant's determination to cut down the expenses of the government, and think that some latitude of discretion may be left to the Executive, it would be better for Congress to determine by law what should be the average military force in time of peace. The present time, when there is such urgent necessity for retrenchment, affords the best opportunity for cutting down the army and fixing, approximately at least, the number of men and officers. For this reason the amendment proposed by General Butler was preferable to that of Mr. Blaine, for his is specific in terms as to where and how reductions should be made. Thirty millions a year, or thereabouts, would have been saved by this amendment, and the people could see how it was to be done. They would have seen that the talk about economy was meant and being practically carried out. True, General Grant gave the country a proof of his economy when, at the close of the war, he promptly cut down the army, and we doubt not he will give further proofs of retrenchment; but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that as a military man he may incline to favor a larger army establishment than Congress or the people want in time of peace. It is known that for the last three years of peace the army has been a great cost to the country. Then why should the responsibility be left with the President? In the matter of strictly administrative responsibility, and particularly over the departments and officers of the government, both civil and military, he should have full power, and for this purpose the Tenure of Office act should be swept away; but Congress should determine by law the expenses of the several departments and where retrenchment should be made. General Grant is too wise and patriotic to desire anything else. Those who oppose retrenchment on the pretended ground of confidence in and giving full scope to the new administration are not the best friends of that administration, for their action can only tend to embarrass it. Let Congress begin a thorough system of economy, and we have no doubt General Grant will gladly acquiesce in and support its measures.

THE CARPET-BAGGERS AN IMPEDIMENT.—It appears that the difficulty between the two houses of agreeing upon a new constitutional amendment on suffrage is with the "carpet-baggers" or new Senators from the reconstructed Southern States. They want not only the equal right of the black man to vote but in the amendment, but his equal right to hold office, and upon that question it seems the Northern republicans generally are not up to the mark. But as the "carpet-baggers" hold the balance of power in the Senate on a two-thirds vote, they will probably gain their point or swamp the amendment in any other shape, for they must stick to their constitutions.

WORK FOR GENERAL GRANT ON RECONSTRUCTION.—It is most likely that the settlement of the Georgia question of reconstruction, in addition to Virginia, Mississippi and Texas, will pass over to the new President and to the new Congress, which will meet directly upon the final adjournment of the present Congress at noon on the 4th of March.

MAD DOG!—This is a cry that appears so much in the papers in these days that people fancy there are more mad dogs than usual. They never heard of so many before. Perhaps there are no more mad dogs, but there are more papers and more telegraphs, and we hear more than we used to of all that happens, even in isolated districts. There is no such thing, properly speaking, as an epidemic of hydrophobia. In our climate the disease, perhaps, never occurs spontaneously, but is always communicated by the bite from one dog to another. But a dog may have a long run in a district, and bite many others before he is known to be mad, and thus the disease may sometimes have one characteristic of epidemics.

GAMBLERS.—Two gambling places were entered by the police on Friday evening and all present arrested and locked up. Many of these were accidental visitors and others were men who make this nefarious pursuit a means of subsistence. These last are a species and class by themselves in this city, and they are among the worst of the many classes here that successfully defy the law. Leniency is wasted upon them. Shall we have an enforcement of the law, then, in these cases, or the ridiculous theatrical admonition of the justice and the departure of the culprit to pursue as usual his demoralizing vocation?

THE TWO JOHNSONS.—It is given out that Andy Johnson, the outgoing President, will leave Washington direct for Tennessee on the 5th of March, and that Reverdy Johnson may possibly be back again from England, on a furlough, in time to see him off.

SETTLING UP WITH THE SENATE.—Seventy clerks in the Custom House have been notified that their valuable services can be dispensed with. If Senators will resolve not to confirm nominations what can their nephews expect?

The Fashions.

The lady readers of the HERALD never skip the sparkling letters of our Paris fashions correspondent. It is therefore almost unnecessary to refer to the latest, which we publish this morning, and which includes descriptions of the toilets worn at a concert by the Duchess Litta, radiant in purple and gold; at the second Tuilleries ball by the Empress (white satin covered with tulle, over which was a panner of striped Algerian tissue); by the Marchioness de Caillay a crêpe de chine shawl made into a skirt without seam and deeply fringed, over a tulle under robe, the new round rose wreath on the head and roses like those in the wreath looping up the tulle on both sides and flaring on each shoulder); by Princess de Metternich (light green tulle robe with numerous frills bordered with satin, tulle of satin and fringed, ornaments, pearls and diamonds, with a large chignon, a diamond comb and an emerald green Australian parrot on the head); by Mlle. Marion (underskirt of blue, covered with a white gauze tulle looped with tea roses); by Mme. Rouher (gray tulle skirt in the dove shades, puffed up to the waist, dotted over with pink bows, a superb tunic of roses falling in snow flakes over the bows, and the now indispensable rose diadem, of which our correspondent is getting somewhat tired, deeming a wreath of Brussels sprouts preferable to it); and by Mlle. Rouher (in white and corse, with a panner of cerise taffeta, looped with black velvet, wearing also an immense bow and ends of the same velvet and one rose in her hair). Our correspondent notes in detail the compromise effected between the two camps—those who hid their feet under their trains and those who crossed them in pink stockings and high heels most conspicuously. The compromise seems to consist of a coalition of the short skirt and the long train in one. Opera cloaks are now out like Hungarian jackets. The new coachmen's capes are making a furor, the under one of all not being permitted to come below the waist. The tame serpent coiled around a ballet dancer in the play of "Theodorus" has suggested a pretty trimming for the sleeve made up of *rouleaux à la vipère*. It was an "old serpent" who led to the adoption of the original fig leaf, the first toilet worn by "the fairest of her daughters, Eve." Mlle. D'Apachine, the bride of Prince Eugene de Leuchtenberg, wore at her wedding in Florence a long white satin robe, trimmed with ruffles of tulle, without jewelled ornaments, flowers or wreath. Had the bride of Prince Eugene de Leuchtenberg been an American belle she would hardly have allowed him to step first on the mysterious emblematic napkinlike square of pink satin in front of the altar.

The advent of the spring fashions in New York must be postponed somewhat on account of the fit of wintry weather which has come upon us. But there are already indications that here, as in Paris, the narrow stripes of the overdress and the wide stripes of the underskirt, which have prevailed in silk and woollen goods, are likely to be reproduced in thin goods. New and elegant patterns in silks and satins are promised. Garlands or sprays of flowers in the headdress (including the Parisian rose diadem) will multiply as the season advances. Elaborate bows, of all shapes and various materials, loops of satin, or of satin lined with silk, and collars of plain linen, or of muslin embroidered and edged with Valenciennes lace, or of costly lace, are duly noted by our fashions journals as prominent features in New York toilets at present. One of our ambitious city contemporaries, not content with depicting the fashions of the present, threatens to reveal to-morrow those of the future.

TOO MANY.—By telegraph we have had it reported from Cuba that there are 70,000 Spanish troops on the island—an enlargement, no doubt, by a cipher from 7,000. They are reported to be stamping out the fire in various places, but still it has been spreading until the whole island is in a blaze. The next act in the drama, unless Dulce makes quick work of the insurrection, may be the rising of the blacks, and then, perhaps, the chaos of St. Domingo. This is, perhaps, the fear which is driving so many of the well-to-do whites from the island.

HUMANITARIAN TRASH.—John Bright's argument in favor of the abolition of the hanging of murderers. In Illinois they have tried the abolition of capital punishment, and they have found it so encouraging to outthroats that they have passed a bill by the Legislature to restore the rope. A pound of facts is worth a ton of visionary theories.

The Alabama Treaty Question.

The London *Times*, commenting on this subject, says:—"We shall now wait for propositions from the new administration under General Grant." Elsewhere this morning will be found further extracts from the *Standard*, *Times* and *Post*. We can assure our English friends that the coming government is not made of that soft material that presents propositions for the settlement of such practical outrages. The only thing that may be presented is a bill for damages, the ignoring of which on the part of the offenders will cause the loss of Canada, which we shall seize and hold as collateral security. Either this or a masterly silence on the whole subject and the awaiting of an offer from England to pay up. The latter offer would come rapidly enough in view of the chances of a European war.

The resolution on this subject introduced in the House of Representatives of Massachusetts on Friday has the true ring to it—"Any treaty which does not by its terms concede the liability of the English government for the acts of its protégés, the Alabama and her consorts, will be spurned with contempt by the American people, and that a ratification thereof would be dishonorable to our nation and unjust to its citizens." We think this resolution should be adopted by Congress and made what it really is, the almost unanimous expression of the feeling about the Alabama claims on this side of the water.

TAKING TRADE DISPUTES TO THE POLLS.—Certain employing printers who do the printing for the Corporation cannot agree with their journeymen as to the pay the latter shall have. The employers say they cannot meet the demands of the men. The men thereupon appeal to the Corporation to help them out in their quarrel with their employers by withdrawing from the latter the city printing. The Aldermen refuse to comply, and the

printers have notified them that they will organize to beat them at the polls in future. If the printers are more powerful than Tammany we are glad of it. If they can change our Aldermen we shall rejoice. But at the same time they are showing to the world what terrible abuse and tyranny may be set up in the name of freedom.

NO RIGHTS.—According to a recent decision in one of the petty courts of California, in the case of the robbery of a Chinaman by a negro, the Chinaman in California has no rights which a negro is bound to respect. It was decided that whereas the Chinaman, by the laws of California, cannot testify against a white man, and whereas by the Civil Rights bill of Congress a negro has the same civil rights as a white man, therefore John Chinaman against Sambo had no case, because he could make no charge. We call the attention of the Hon. Charles Sumner to this matter. Let him look into it or never say human rights again.

ANOTHER TICKET SWINDLE.—If a pawnbroker issues his ticket certifying that a watch has been deposited with him on a loan of seven dollars and his confederate sells the ticket for one dollar, and if then the buyer of the ticket takes out the watch, paying seven dollars and a half—the half for interest—then the pawnbroker and his confederate will have received eight dollars and a half; while if the watch is worth fifty cents there will be eight dollars clear profit. This is, therefore, a good business if the police can be kept out of it. Don't buy any pawnbrokers' tickets.

HUMBING.—The Senate, in playing fast and loose, and in taking up and laying down again the House bill for the repeal of the Tenure of Office law.

Fast Ocean Steamers.

We published yesterday an account of an exciting race between the City of Paris and the Russia in their Atlantic passage—the former steamer, belonging to the Inman line, beating the Russia just forty-five minutes. Certainly the race was well contested, and reminds us of the ocean yacht race of 1866. The time of the City of Paris was eight days, fifteen hours and fifteen minutes; of the Russia eight days and sixteen hours. The race was virtually for the English government mail subsidy, which by law is to be given to the fastest line. A few more trials of this kind will win it for the Inmans.

We are strong advocates of ocean steamship racing between rival companies. It will give the highest development to naval architecture and will force, through emulation, a class of steamers into notice which are greatly to be desired in any European communications. It is, to say the least, a disagreeable fact that to and from our shores we see such contests for naval supremacy without participating in them. The decay of American enterprise in this direction is truly lamentable; but at the present pace it will soon be worse. We have driven our shipbuilding to the shores of Canada, where they launch and sell their vessels to us at about half the price for which we can build in our own shipyards; and yet we have a class of men in Congress who call this legislation. We sigh for their lack of intellect. Fortunately there is one hope that we may again enter into a generous steamship rivalry with the maritime nations of Europe—that hope is in the coming administration.

PERFECTLY ABSURD.—The long twaddling dissertations of a copperhead contemporary on the rules by which General Grant ought to be guided in the appointment of his Cabinet.

ONE OF THE ABUSES THAT GRANT MUST REMEDY.—Grant must, above all, take care of the soldiers, and must see that the deficiencies of administration that make it necessary for those entitled to bounties to employ lawyers exist no longer. Even if the lawyer is honest the soldier must lose a portion of his bounty to pay him, and the lawyer is very apt to be dishonest. So far as the Herman swindling is known only ten thousand dollars is unaccounted for, and property of the culprit, amounting to twelve thousand dollars, is held to satisfy the claims; but it may not be thus always.

NO OBJECTION.—A few days more of rain and thaw will open the river to Albany, the first result of which will be, no doubt, a cheapening of provisions.

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO.—From cable dispatches which arrived late last night, and which we print in this morning's HERALD, it will be seen that the outbreak so long expected in Mexico has at last taken place. Some of the items doubtless require confirmation; but the risings which have taken place simultaneously in so many different places and the prominent names in some instances associated with the movement give rather an alarming aspect to the whole thing.

Our City Post Office.

The doubt and delay attending the action of the general government in the matter of the New York City Post Office are creating difficulty and trouble in the early future for our citizens as well as for the officials of the department. Nearly a year has expired since the construction of a new Post Office here was determined, and yet no step towards the erection of the building has been taken. We are informed that the cause of this inaction lies in the quarrels of two or three cliques or rings of speculators who want the job, and who have so far succeeded in their efforts as to prevent the contracts from being closed. Each ring, when it finds that some other is likely to be the successful bidder, strives to delay the decision, and it is lamentable to find that they possess sufficient influence in the public departments to prevent this much needed work from being commenced.

It is a reproach to the city of New York and a shame to the Post Office Department of the United States that the mails of the whole country are crammed into the little, dingy, dirty and dark Dutch church on Nassau street, there to be crowded round and delayed, from the simple fact that there is not room enough to handle the matter and perform the necessary work. With the rapidly increasing population of the country and the twofold more rapid increase of its correspondence the evil is augmenting daily. It already requires several hours to open the mails in the confined locality, and the result is that letters which should reach